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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A mail opener comprises a cutting device, the cutting device being movable between an operating position and a retracted position where it is inoperative, the position of the cutting device being controllable by a drive means controlled by the postage meter. The arrangement is such that a single post station can be provided for both franking mail and opening mail, the post station incorporating a safety measure to prevent newly franked outgoing mail from being inadvertently opened or damaged by the mail opener.

(figure 1)

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